

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Decision on Appeal, mailed May 19, 2006, wherein the Board affirmed the Examiner's rejection of the claims, and is being filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). As part of the decision, the Board articulated that Applicant's distinction was not seen as being necessitated by the claim language, and further indicated that it would have been a simple matter to have amended the claim to more clearly set forth the distinction. The board further offered possible exemplary language including the type of message as being separate from, different than, and/or completely independent from the size of the message. The applicants have correspondingly further amended independent claims 35 and 42 to more clearly set forth the distinction in a manner consistent with the board's recommendation.

In view of the present amendment, the claims are now even more clearly distinguishable from Ichikawa et al., US Patent No. 4,626,842, which corresponds to the outstanding basis for rejection, as most recently articulated in the Office Action made final, dated September 22, 2004.

The applicants would respectfully request that the Examiner reexamine and reconsider the presently pending claims in view of the present amendment, and the Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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